Docket No. 06270007AA Group Art Unit 2173 MAR 0 8 2004

TRANSMITTAL LETTER (General - Patent Pending)

In Re Application Of:

Tanaka

Serial No. 10/052,521 Filing Date 1-23-02

Examiner unknown

GE EDITING APPARATUS AND IMAGE EDITING METHOD

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Dated: 3-5-04

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I certify that this document and fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No. 10/052,521

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

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Technology Center 2100

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 through 1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents, which are cited in a Japanese Office Action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of this statement.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of the official action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. Patent application is that the references was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject manner. However, no independent analysis of the

reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the same subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith. It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the examiner and be formally made of record in the application. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credits any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael E. Whitham Registration No. 32,635

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Docket Number (Optional) Application Number 06270007AA 10/052,521 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Applicant(s) M. Tanaka (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date Group Art Unit 1-23-02 2173 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER MBER DATE NAME FILING DATE SUBCLASS CLASS INITIAL IF APPROPRIATE RECEIVED MAR 0 8 2004 Technology Center 2100 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation REF DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS YES NO 11-275583 J 10-8-99 Japan abstract 8-70422 3-12-96 Japan abstract 8-18912 1-19-96 Japan abstract 11-112980 4-23-99 Japan abstract 11-187410 7-9-99 Japan abstract OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Japanese Office Action dated December 25, 2003 with English translatiom of pertinent portions 1

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and no considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.